

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P: GFSHERMAN:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P: GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

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R 120042Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

OR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 11,
1975:

Q. CAN YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THE MEETINGS BEGINNING
TOMORROW BETWEEN THE TWO ISRAELI DELEGATIONS AND OUR OWN
PEOPLE?

A. AS YOU HAVE SEEN IN THE PRESS, TWO OFFICIALS FROM
PRIME MINISTER RABIN'S OFFICE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY,
MR. GAZIT AND DR. ROSENNE, WILL JOIN AMBASSADOR DINITZ IN
TALKS WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
ATHERTON TOMORROW ON CERTAIN POINTS RELATED TO THE INTERIM
AGREEMENT. THERE WILL BE ANOTHER GROUP OF FINANCIAL
ADVISORS COMING FROM ISRAEL. THIS GROUP WILL ALSO BE
HEADED BY AMBASSADOR DINITZ. THEY WILL MEET WITH UNDER
SECRETARY SISCO AND OTHER AMERICAN ECONOMIC OFFICIALS
ON WEDNESDAY.

THE BACKGROUND FOR THIS PARTICULAR GROUP, THE SECOND GROUP
THAT IS COMING FOR TALKS ON WEDNESDAY, WAS THAT SEVERAL

WEEKS AGO AID OFFICIALS BEGAN TALKS AT THE TECHNICAL
LEVEL WITH ISRAELI ECONOMIC OFFICIALS HERE TO EXAMINE WITH
THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THEIR PROJECTIONS OF ISRAEL'S
FINANCIAL SITUATION OVER THE COMING YEAR. THE PURPOSE
OF THESE TALKS IS TO MAKE AN ANALYSIS WHICH WOULD
EVENTUALLY PROVIDE FOR US ONE OF THE BASES FOR THE
ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION TO CONGRESS FOR
'76 ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE LEVELS.

IN EARLIER TALKS WE HAD ASKED CERTAIN QUESTIONS AND
THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT PROPOSED THAT THIS SMALL GROUP
OF FINANCIAL EXPERTS COME FROM ISRAEL TO PROVIDE THE DATA
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WE REQUESTED.

Q. WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON MILITARY AID? IS ANY
DELEGATION COMING TO DISCUSS THAT, OR WILL ANY OF THESE
DELEGATIONS DISCUSS MILITARY AID?

A. NOT PER SE, NO, NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

Q. THIS IS ONLY ECONOMIC.

A. THESE ARE FINANCIAL ADVISORS.

Q. WAIT A SECOND. THIS IS FOR BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY
AID.

A. IF I UNDERSTOOD THE QUESTION, THE SUGGESTION OF THE QUESTION WAS WOULD WE BE TALKING ABOUT HARDWARE OR SPECIFIC ITEMS, AND THAT IS NOT MY UNDERSTANDING. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT WE ARE LOOKING OVER THE OVERALL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Q. BUT FOR BOTH MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID.

A. BUT WITHOUT GETTING INTO A DETAILED DISCUSSION. THESE ARE NOT MILITARY ADVISORS PER SE. THESE ARE FINANCIAL ADVISORS.

Q. ONE OF THEM IS A FULL GENERAL, ADVISOR TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF, AND THE OTHER IS AN ADVISOR TO THE DEFENSE MINISTER.

A. BUT I BELIEVE IT IS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Q. WHAT YOU ARE SAYING IS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT FINANCING OF MILITARY AID RATHER THAN THE HARDWARE.

A. ON BACKGROUND, I WOULD ASSUME THAT IS WHAT THEY WILL BE TALKING ABOUT. END BACKGROUND.

Q. HOW LONG WILL THESE TALKS CONTINUE?
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A. I HAVE NO IDEA.

Q. WOULD YOU SUGGEST THAT THIS IS NOW THE END OF THE REASSESSMENT?

A. NO, I WOULDN'T SUGGEST THAT THIS IS THE END OF THE REASSESSMENT. I THINK THAT THIS IS ALL PART OF THE OVERALL PROCESS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN, AND OBVIOUSLY THIS REFLECTS THAT WE ARE CONTINUING TO MAKE PROGRESS. BUT THERE STILL REMAIN SOME HARD DECISIONS TO BE MADE BY BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT BEFORE AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT IS REACHED. SO, WHILE IT IS ENCOURAGING, AND WHILE THERE IS PROGRESS BEING MADE, I WOULD COUNSEL NOT DRAWING ANY FAR-REACHING CONCLUSIONS FROM THE ARRIVAL OF THESE TWO GROUPS THIS WEEK.

Q. ON THE SECOND GROUP OF PEOPLE, WHO ELSE WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS, BESIDES MR. SISCO, WITH THE FINANCIAL ADVISORS?

A. I DON'T HAVE THE NAMES OF THE U.S. SIDE. I WILL TRY TO GET THEM.

Q. PEOPLE FROM TREASURY AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS?

A. I JUST DID NOT GET THAT INFORMATION. (THE FOLLOWING NAMES WERE LATER SUPPLIED TO THE PRESS:

HONORABLE JOSEPH J. SISCO - UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. CHAIRMAN

HONORABLE ROBERT H. NOOTER - ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, BUREAU FOR NEAR EAST AND SOUTH ASIA, AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN

WALTER B. SMITH, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARAB AND ISRAELI AFFAIRS, BUREAU FOR NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS (NEA), STATE

XENIA VUNOVIC - ISRAEL DESK OFFICER, STATE, NEA
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DAVID MORRISON - SENIOR DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR, OFFICE OF REGIONAL AFFAIRS, STATE, NEA

COLONEL DAVID FARNHAM - BUREAU OF POLITICAL-MILITARY AFFAIRS, STATE

THEODORE WAHL - DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS, TREASURY

JACQUES GORLIN - INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIST, OFFICE OF MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS, TREASURY

JOHANNES BINNENDIJK - BUDGET EXAMINER, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB)

ROBERT MANTEL - BUDGET EXAMINER, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION, OMB

AUTHOR HOUGHTON - STAFF MEMBER, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

JOHN MONTGOMERY - ECONOMIST, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

BLAINE C. RICHARDSON - ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS, NESA, AID

Q. CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER OR NOT THE AID PEOPLE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH, OR HAS ANYBODY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN ABOUT FOREIGN AID? THEY HAVEN'T HAD ANY, EITHER, HAVE THEY.

A. I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY --

Q. THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY MEETINGS SCHEDULED.

A. I DON'T KNOW.

Q. CAN WE FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT, AND WHAT THEY ARE
PLANNING?

A. I WILL SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT THE STATUS IS.
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Q. WHEN IS AMBASSADOR EILTS COMING BACK FROM CAIRO?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHEN HE IS COMING BACK. I DO NOT
KNOW THAT THERE ARE ANY PLANS FOR HIM TO RETURN.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT THAT HE WAS COMING BACK.

A. NO--I CHECKED THAT. THERE ARE NO PRESENT PLANS FOR
HIM TO RETURN. I DON'T RULE IT OUT, BUT AS OF NOW THERE
ARE NO PLANS.

Q. I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU WANT TO TELL US WHAT THE HARD
DECISIONS ARE ON THE PART OF EITHER ISRAEL OR EGYPT.

A. NO, I DO NOT.

Q. DOES THE UNITED STATES HAVE TO MAKE ANY HARD
DECISIONS, TOO?

A. FROM TIME TO TIME.

KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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JERUSALEM
KHARTOUM
MANAMA
TEHRAN
TEL AVIV
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